

## CLAIMS

1. A print server, for processing a print job sent by a workstation, the print server comprising:

5 a printer set-up module to provide a print driver for installation on the workstation; and

an authentication module to supply an authentication code to the workstation, and to review the print job sent by the workstation to determine validity of a copy of the authentication code attached to the print job.

10 2. The print server of claim 1, additionally comprising:

a software library to contain the print driver and at least one additional print driver.

15 3. The print server of claim 1, additionally comprising:

a webpage interface to gather information from the workstation to indicate a preferred print driver to be sent to the workstation.

20 4. The print server of claim 1, additionally comprising:

a web page to present a questionnaire to a user of the workstation.

5. The print server of claim 1, additionally comprising:

a MAC address, transferred from the workstation to the print server, to aid in the authentication of the workstation.

6. A method of printing, comprising:  
attaching a workstation to a LAN;  
downloading and installing a print driver on the workstation;  
5 downloading an authentication code to the workstation;  
sending a print job, containing the authentication code, from the  
workstation to a print server;  
verifying validity of the authentication code; and  
sending the print job from the print server to a printer.

10 7. The method of claim 6, additionally comprising:  
obtaining information about the workstation; and  
using the information to select the print driver from a library.

15 8. The method of claim 6, additionally comprising:  
using a MAC address to assist in authenticating print jobs from the  
workstation.

20 9. The method of claim 6, additionally comprising:  
using a webpage to present a questionnaire to a user of the workstation.

**10.** A method of authenticating a print job, comprising:

downloading and installing a print driver on a workstation;

downloading an authentication code to the workstation;

5        sending a print job, containing the authentication code, from the  
workstation to a print server;

verifying validity of the authentication code; and

sending the print job to a printer.

10        **11.** The method of claim 10, additionally comprising:

gathering information from the workstation to indicate a preferred print  
driver to be sent to the workstation.

**12.** The method of claim 10, additionally comprising:

15        using a MAC address to aid in authenticating that the print job was sent  
from an authorized location.

13. A processor-readable medium having processor-executable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to:

- 5 download and install a print driver on a workstation;
- download and install an authentication code on the workstation;
- send a print job, containing the authentication code, from the workstation to a print server;
- verify validity of the authentication code using an authentication module
- 10 on the print server; and
- send the print job from the print server to a printer.

14. The processor-readable media of claim 13, having further instructions which cause the processors to:

- 15 gather information from the workstation to indicate a preferred print driver to be sent to the workstation.

15. The processor-readable media of claim 13, having further instructions which cause the processors to:

- 20 obtain information about the workstation; and
- use the information to select the print driver from a library.

16. The processor-readable media of claim 13, having further instructions which cause the processors to:

- 25 use a MAC address aid in recognizing a location of the workstation.

